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effective methods of preventing disall disease is due directly to our own carclessness, and that nearly every form of disease is infectious. To bring the world to proper appreciation of the gravity of the situation is

the greatest problem of the age.

The task is a stupendous one, presenting a bewildering array of conditions that must be coped with; Custons of long usage must be attacked by scientists and the people made to realize that they are disease-breeding. Ledger. To overcome the law of custom is the hardest of all problems, and in this with the most difficult situation which has ever in the natural course of events arisen.

Primarily the cause of disease is due to the careless habits of the people. upon the streets, for instance, with arising from the careless habit. Of this one fithy habit, which would not be practiced by a well-bred man, has disease. Neglect of sinks in the kitchof garbage, lack of sanitation, etc., all contribute to the increasing sickness.

Just at the present time the city of dangerous. A correspondent of the far as exports are concerned, Through New York Tribune contributes an in- a railway combination, the producers. complains that the clevated railways ing people, are being held up by the

use the "L" reads at night and all of that will give the producer an even | Chicago Jan. 27 - The Iroquois thethem are subjected to the dangers break. arising from exposure to the cold night. The Ledger might, with equal fair

causes to which the spread of infect for improvement of the Columbia river tious disease are attributed, but it is har. sufficient to show that our entire social already cost the government about come healthful. The municipal au- much again will probably be necestherities of the various cities of the sary to completion of the work undert'on of the fact that rigid health laws 12,000 or 14,000 people, and it might be must be enacted and firmly enforced. said the government has been unusual-Our laws make it necessary for one person to respect the rights and liberties of another, but the necessity of much laws fades into lusignificance when compared with the need for law . that will compel and person to respect the health of others. The man who strikes another or robs his house is subject to the operation of the criminal. taws, yet the man who neglects the health regulations, thereby enlangering the lives of scores of persons, is seldom if ever punished, for the reason that we are as yet too ignorant to appreciate that our health is worth protecting!

Some day there will be little or no disease in this world, or at least in the most intelligent portions of it. The health problems with which we now are wrestling will then have been solved-which is to say the people will have become sufficiently intelligent to abserve the precautions necessary to sound body and mind. Education is the solution which will be applied to the great problem. We are now taking our first lessons, and it is to be expected the services of the police will be essential to our advancement, just

as the switch must be applied to the ly kind to it. However, improvement refractory youth who rebels at the reg-ulations imposed by his teacher,

No river and harbor bill will be

HARBOR IMPROVEMENT

passed by this congress, but Sonators Mitchell and Pulton, of Oregon, find that the Columbia river can probably still be kept open. There is an unexpended balance of \$1,200,000 for the bar at its mouth, and \$100,000 to keep the river open from Portland to the sea. The engineers recommended \$1,-200,000 for this purpose, but the war department cut it down to \$500,000. because no more than that could be expended in one year, and because that sum ought to serve until a river and but to the lasting injury of the state. barbor bill could provide something more liberal. In addition to this, newspaper published on the Columbia \$125,000 is hoped for for dredging, harpies—as, for example, the Houston can get this into the sundry civil bill. Another \$100,000, for improvements at The Dalles, the senators hope to be last year. Since January 1 other suits The scientific world is at present able to get, though an unexpended ap- have been started claiming over \$100. deeply wrapped up in study of the most propriation of \$200,000 stands in their way, and makes the prospect rather of claims is likely, by the end of 1904, ease. It has been positively detection discouraging. It is costing a pretty to equal the entire value of the commined in recent years that practically figure to defeat the intentions of nature pany's property and franchises. As navigable for sea-going vessels as far disposition of juries, under the influas Portland. It will continue to be costly while the world stands, if cou- verdicts for the full amount of such gress permits it. If one-half the claims, however outrageous, all public amount appropriated each year for this carriers in Texas are existing under a purpose were voted as a bounty to pay reign of terror and financial uncerfreight from Portland to Tacoma, more would be accomplished by it for all concerned, except the unfortunately located city of Portland. - Tacoma

This is far-fetched knocking and unworthy of the Ledger, which has uscritical age of the world's existence ually been rational in dealing with our eminent scientists are confronted piver and harbor improvement matters. It is not plain that Portland is unfortunately located. The Oregon metropolis is located 120 miles from the ocean, yet there is a 22-foot channel leading to it, and in the past it has, For centuries men have expectorated through railroad combinations, been enabled to handle exports on a large no thought of the terrible dangers scale. The city has expended millions of dollars on the inland channel, which late years it has been determined that is more than Tacoma or Seattle has ever done for itself. The people of Portland are entitled to consideration communicated much of the contagious at the hands of congress, and it is poor policy for some nearby city to underens of our homes, improper disposal take to knock an expected appropria-

cial attention to the fact that it is the New York is wrestling with the pneu- duty of the government to defeat the monia problem. Specialists are striving intentions of nature whenever and to determine the reason for the ap- wherever nature has placed an impedipalling number of fatal cases, and find ment in the way of a community's proas they progress in their work that it gress. Let us consider for a moment is due to many conditions which have the local situation. Portland, Tacoma ly profitable. The experiments will be not heretofore impressed the people at and Scattle are on the same basis so teresting article in this respect. He some hundreds of thousands of deserv-

fig in the open air for several mine in the field. At this juncture Under ing arrangements in the cars. Thous producers may send out their produce made of persons find it necessary to by boat. Competition is thus created

ness, have argued that the government This is only an instance of the many is doing wrong in appropriating money The mouth of the Columbia has system needs revision if we are to be- four millions of dollars, and half as country have been brought to realiza- taken there. Astoria is a city of but

of the bar is no more a boon to Astoria than to the entire northwest. Deeper water will affect every com munity in the Columbia basin and provide the government with a fine freshwater port, at which the largest ships affoat may call, and the utilisation of which will give renewed impetus to every line of trade.

It is just as reasonable for the govgrament to Improve rivers and harbors as it is for the property owner to keep his buildings in good repairsimply a matter of business.

The damage suit industry for which Texas has long been infamous still flourishes, to the profit of rapacious says the Railway Age. Electric as well as steam railways are meat for these though the senators are not sure they Electric Company, against whose gross earnings of \$400,000 personal injury suits for more than \$1,000,000 were filed so far as to make the Columbia river it is in the power and sometimes the

> Commissioner Ware has decided that, as a soldier who is imprisoned for life is already being cared for by the government, he is not entitled to his pen-

> If Japan and Russia are as long in fighting as they are in preparing for war, the conflict will last a long time.

In order to please the entire party the democratic candidate must have voted for and against Bryan,

The Parisians are very fond of horses. They are 10,000 of them last

#### RAPID TRANSIT DISCUSSED.

Berlin, Jan. 27. -Before the budget ommittee of the Prussian diet, Minister of Public Works Budde, discussing the recent electrical rapid transit experiments said yesterday: "The studies are still in their preliminary We cannot undertake the transportation of the general passenger public electrically. It is uncertain continued with necessary precautions.

#### ORDER INJUNCTIONS WITHDRAWN.

Waterbury, Conn., Jan. 27.-Attor of the metropolis are largely to blame carriers for such rates as the combina- the Connecticut Railway & Lighting. for the pheumonia epidemic. He re- the sees it to exact. The people have company, has ordered that the talance interest that the talance are so no reduced. If they do not like the arranged as to keep passengers walls obtuation, they can left their grain for against the labor unions of this city the withdrawn. They grew out of the utes, and adds that much of the dis- Sam steps in to say he will cause the trottey strike and riots here hat February is doubtless due to improper heat- venterways to be so improved that the runry.

THEATER BUILDING RELEASED.

ater buffding is now in the hands of its owners. Coroner Tracker has no tined the police department to call of the policemen on guard at the buildings, and later notified the attorneys for Powers and Davis that he no longer wished the custody of the structure.

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\*8:15 a m Astoria for Waren- 7:40 a m 11:35 a m ton. Flavel Fort 4:00 p m 5:50 p m Stevens. Hammond 10:46 a m and Seaside 6:15 a m | Seaside for War- | 12:50 p m renton, Flavel, 7:20 p ne Bammond, Fort \*9:26 am

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